



BROOKE'S BPW BRIEF

✓ *Breaking down the Board of Public Works*

Meeting Date

January 29, 2025

BWI THURGOOD MARSHALL AIRPORT CONCOURSE E BAGGAGE HANDLING SYSTEM

The BPW approved a request from the Maryland Aviation Administration to award The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company (Greenbelt, MD) a contract to **replace and expand** the existing baggage handling system in Concourse E at BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport. The 2-year contract was awarded at a cost of \$36 million.

The project involves (1) replacing the existing outbound baggage conveyors, which are nearing the end of useful life and date to the original opening of Concourse E in 1997 and (2) installing an additional baggage belt and explosive detection system machine to enhance capacity and security.

GREEN JOBS TRAINING CENTER

The Board approved \$300,000 in capital grant funding to the Board of Directors of Howard EcoWorks to support the acquisition of property in Glenwood, Howard County, which will serve as an operational hub and regional green jobs training center for program participants.

The property will be used to model best practices in conservation and restoration for the community, as well as grow and propagate native plants.

Summary Figures

The BPW approved 85 items, representing a total State expenditure of \$280 million, including:

- 17 grant agreements for projects located in 9 counties and Baltimore City
- 12 items awarding \$33.2 million to prime certified small businesses.
- 4 items awarding \$21.8 million to certified Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) primes.
- 11 items awarded with established participation goals for MBEs.
- 5 items awarded with a goal for Veteran-owned Small Businesses.

MEDICAID DENTAL BENEFITS

The Board approved a request from the Department of Health to award DentaQuest of Maryland, LLC (Boston, MA) a contract to provide dental administrative services for Maryland Medicaid participants. The 3-year contract, including three 1-year renewal options, was awarded at a cost of \$55 million.

The contractor will be responsible for administering dental services to approximately 1.5 million eligible recipients under the Maryland Healthy Smiles Dental Program.

The recommended awardee has committed to exceeding the established 20% MBE and 0.5% VSBE participation goals by 6.5% and 0.3%, respectively.